GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:50
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2016
Archives of News Items
Rori Shri Charanjeet Singh

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any mechanism to maintain archives of news-items both in print and video format, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, whether the Government proposes to introduce a mechanism for maintaining archives of news-items to make it accessible to future generation;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with financial implications assessed by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to maintain the archives of news-items?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 50 REGARDING ARCHIVES OF NEWS ITEMS FOR ANSWER ON 26.02.2016

Press Information Bureau (PIB), an attached office under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, is the nodal agency of the Government of India to disseminate information to the print and electronic media on government policies, programmes, initiatives and achievements. It has an Information Centre located at Connaught Place, New Delhi which houses print records of historical value. The hard copies of press releases issued by PIB since independence to 1997 are available in the Information Centre which are now being digitized. Press releases are being issued by PIB in the digital form since January, 1998. Besides, at present 22 leading newspapers are being kept at the Information Centre, Connaught Place, New Delhi in bound form. The Information Centre is open to general public.

With regard to audio archives of news items, bulletins of All India Radio (AIR) broadcast from Delhi and different Regional News Units located in various States are preserved in text as well as electronic formats. At the headquarters of AIR in Delhi, text copies of major news bulletins of All India Radio broadcast from Delhi are preserved for a period of five years. The text and audio format of these bulletins are also available on News Service Division (NSD): AIR website www.newsonair.com for a period of three months. Major Hindi and English news bulletins broadcast from Delhi have also been preserved in electronic form on CDs (audio format) from June, 2006 to October, 2015. Regional News Units (RNUs) of All India Radio preserve the text copies of news bulletins as well as audio recordings for one year. RNUs now also upload their bulletins on NSD website.

Doordarshan News (DD News) as a 24 hours news channel and Public Broadcaster of the country maintains the archives in print/video format. News bulletins are being preserved as archives in print format since 2010. All daily News Bulletins are preserved in visual format for 6 months and stored in local server of DD News. Coverage of VVIPs such as Hon'ble President, Vice President and Prime Minister, including their major domestic and foreign tours, are archived and preserved. Recordings of news coverage, which have longer implications and recall value, are also archived and preserved in DD News Tape library.

Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC) keeps the record of the channels monitored for a period of 90 days.

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